SECTION VI
TAX COLLECTOR Vicki L. Potts

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Report of Independent Auditors

Honorable Vickie Potts Charlotte County Tax Collector Port Charlotte, Florida

We have audited the accompanying special-purpose financial statements of the Charlotte County, Florida, Tax Collector as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2012 as listed in the Table of Contents. These special-purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the Charlotte County, Florida, Tax Collector. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these special-purpose financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the special-purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the special-purpose financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall special-purpose financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The accompanying special-purpose financial statements were prepared for the purpose of complying with Section 218.39(2), Florida Statutes, and Section 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General-Local Governmental Entity Audits, and are not intended to be a complete presentation of the financial position and changes in financial position of the Charlotte County, Florida Tax Collector. Additionally, the special-purpose financial statements present only the Charlotte County, Florida Tax Collector and are not intended to present the financial position and changes in financial position of Charlotte County, Florida, taken as a whole.

In our opinion, the special-purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Charlotte County, Florida, Tax Collector as of September 30, 2012 and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the fiscal year then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated February 18, 2013, on our consideration of the Charlotte County, Florida, Tax Collector's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be considered in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

The budgetary comparison schedule is not a required part of the special-purpose financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and we express no opinion on it.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Charlotte County, Florida, Tax Collector, management, the Charlotte County, Florida, Board of County Commissioners and the Auditor General of the State of Florida, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Ashley, Brown + Co.

February 18, 2013

CHARLOTTE COUNTY, FLORIDA TAX COLLECTOR BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUND SEPTEMBER 30, 2012

Assets	General			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	3,288,470		
Other assets Total assets	\$	7,835 3,296,305		
Liabilities				
Liabilities				
Accounts and vouchers payable	\$	13,222		
Accrued liabilities		61,271		
Due to other constitutional officers				
Board of County Commissioners		3,156,998		
Due to other governmental agencies		64,814		
Total liabilities	\$	3,296,305		

CHARLOTTE COUNTY, FLORIDA TAX COLLECTOR

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE GOVERNMENTAL FUND

For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2012

	General				
Revenues:					
Charges for services	\$	7,245,691			
Miscellaneous		112,127			
Total revenues		7,357,818			
Expenditures:					
Current					
General government		4,774,912			
Total expenditures		4,774,912			
Excess of revenues over expenditures		2,582,906			
Other financing sources (uses):					
Transfers out		(2,582,906)			
Total other financing sources (uses)		(2,582,906)			
Excess of revenues and other sources over/(under) expenditures and other uses					
Fund balance, October 1, 2011		_			
Fund balance, September 30, 2012	\$				
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See accompanying notes.

CHARLOTTE COUNTY, FLORIDA TAX COLLECTOR STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET ASSETS FIDUCIARY FUNDS SEPTEMBER 30, 2012

Assets	Agency Funds				
Cash and cash equivalents Due from other governments	\$	5,236,166 4,090			
Due from individuals Total assets	\$	26,348 5,266,604			
Liabilities					
Due to other constitutional officers:					
Board of County Commissioners	\$	381,677			
Clerk of the Circuit Court		1,487			
Property Appraiser		31			
Total due to other constitutional officers		383,195			
Due to other governments		346,587			
Due to individuals		234,541			
Deposits		4,302,281			
Total liabilities	\$	5,266,604			

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The following is a summary of the more significant accounting principles and policies:

(a) Defining the Governmental Reporting Entity

The Tax Collector, as an elected constitutional officer, was established by the Constitution of the State of Florida, Article VIII, Section 1(d). As such, the Tax Collector's special purpose financial statements are included in the government wide financial statements of Charlotte County, the primary government. A component unit is a legally separate organization for which the elected officials of the primary government are financially accountable. Based on the criteria established by Statement of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Number 14, "Financial Reporting Entity", there are no component units included in the Tax Collector's financial statements.

(b) Fund Accounting

The accounts of the Tax Collector are organized on the basis of funds, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues and expenditures, as appropriate. Government resources are allocated to, and accounted for, in individual funds, based upon the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled.

The following funds are used by the Tax Collector:

General Fund – The General Fund is used to account for all revenues and expenditures applicable to the general operations of the Tax Collector, which are not properly accounted for in another fund. All operating revenues, which are not specifically restricted or designated as to use, are recorded in the General Fund. Excess revenues at the end of the year, due back to the Board of County Commissioners, are shown as operating transfers out.

<u>Agency Funds</u> – Agency Funds are used to account for assets held by public officials in a trustee capacity or as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governments and/or other funds.

(c) Measurement Focus

<u>General Fund</u> – The General Fund is accounted for on a "spending" or "financial flow" measurement focus. This means that only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on the balance sheet. Accordingly, the reported undesignated fund balance (net current assets) is considered a measure of available, spendable or appropriable resources. General operating statements present increases (revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets.

Agency Fund - Agency Funds are custodial in nature (assets equal liabilities) and do not involve measurement of results of operations.

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, Continued

(d) Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied.

The modified accrual basis of accounting is followed by the General and Agency Funds. The modification in such method from the accrual basis is that revenues are recorded when they become measurable and available to finance operations of the current year.

Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related fund liability is incurred. Exceptions to this general rule include:

- (1) Principal and interest on general long-term debt, which is recognized when due; and
- (2) Expenditures are not divided between years by the recording of prepaid expenses.

(e) Budgetary Process

Chapter 195, Florida Statutes, governs the preparation, adoption and amendment process of the Tax Collector's annual budget. A budget is only required to be prepared for the General Fund. The Tax Collector's budget and amendments are prepared independently of the Board of County Commissioners and are approved by the State of Florida Department of Revenue. A copy of the approved budget is provided to the Board of County Commissioners.

The budget for the General Fund is prepared on the modified accrual basis. The annual budget serves as the legal authorization for expenditures. The level of control for appropriations is exercised at the functional level.

(f) Fixed Assets

Acquisitions of tangible personal property are recorded as expenditures in the General Fund at the time of purchase. These assets are reported to the Charlotte County, Florida, Board of County Commissioners and are recorded in the government-wide financial statements.

(g) Compensated Absences

The Tax Collector's employees accumulate sick and annual leave based on the number of years of continuous service and other criteria. Upon termination of employment, employees generally receive payment for accumulated leave.

As of September 30, 2012 the Tax Collector had \$267,427 in long-term compensated absences payable. This amount is reported in the government-wide financial statements of Charlotte County, Florida.

Note 2. Deposits and Investments

Deposits

The Tax Collector's policy allows for deposits to be held in demand deposits, savings accounts, certificates of deposit, money market accounts and overnight repurchase agreements. At September 30, 2012, the Tax Collector maintained deposits in a cash pool and overnight repurchase agreements for all fund types.

At September 30, 2012, the bank balance of \$8,380,651 is the total balance for all Tax Collector funds as participants of the pool and cannot be segregated by fund. The book balance of deposits was \$8,524,636 at September 30, 2012.

The Tax Collector had \$28,450 of cash on hand at September 30, 2012.

The deposits whose values exceed the limits of federal depository insurance are entirely insured or collateralized pursuant to the Public Depository Security Act of the State of Florida, Chapter 280 of the Florida Statutes.

Note 3. Retirement Plan

Plan Description and Provisions

The Tax Collector contributes to the Florida Retirement System (FRS), a cost-sharing multiple-employer Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) defined benefit and defined contribution pension plan controlled by the State Legislature and administered by the Florida Department of Administration, Division of Retirement. The FRS provides retirement and disability benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, a health insurance subsidy, and survivor benefits to plan members and beneficiaries, respectively. The FRS was established in 1970 by Chapter 121, Florida Statutes. Changes to the law can be made only by an act of Florida Legislature. Rules governing the operations and administration of the System may be found in Chapter 60S of the Florida Administrative Code. The Florida Retirement System Annual Report is a document printed for members of the Legislature and the public, reflecting the financial operation and condition of the state-administered retirement systems. The publication contains financial statements, actuarial comments, investment information, and statistical data on the System. A copy can be obtained by writing to Division of Retirement, Research, Education & Policy Section, P.O. Box 9000, Tallahassee, Florida 32315-9000.

Funding Policy

Presently, the System requires contributions from covered members of 3% of gross wage. The current rates, based on employees' gross earnings, are regular employees 5.18%; senior management 6.30%; DROP participants 5.44%; and elected officials 10.23%. The contribution requirements of the Tax Collector are established and may be amended by the State Legislature. The Tax Collector contributions to the System for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2012 were approximately \$146,564 and equaled the required contributions for the year.

Note 4. General Long-Term Debt

and job classifications

The following changes in general long-term debt occurred during the year ended September 30, 2012:

Long-term debt payable at October 1, 2011	\$ 311,491
Increase in accrued compensated absences	339,398
Decrease in accrued compensated absences	(383,462)
Long-term debt payable at September 30, 2012	\$ 267,427
General long-term debt is comprised of the following:	
Noncurrent portion of compensated absences	
Employees of the Tax Collector are entitled to paid	
sick and annual leave, based on length of service	

Note 5. Insurance

The Tax Collector participates in the County-wide self-insurance program. The Charlotte County, Florida, Board of County Commissioners maintains a self-insurance internal service fund to administer insurance activities relating to employee health insurance, life insurance, general liability, automobile liability and workers' compensation. Also, the Board carries excess insurance coverage for workers' compensation.

267,427

The Tax Collector offers its employees a choice between the county-wide self-insured insurance program, or coverage through premiums paid to a third party insurance carrier, paid through the Board of County Commissioners. Amounts paid by the Tax Collector to the Board of County Commissioners for premiums to third party health insurance carriers are included in the total listed below.

Charges to operating departments are based upon amounts believed by management to meet the required annual payout during the fiscal year and to pay for the estimated operating costs of the program and for premiums for third party carrier health insurance plans. For fiscal year ended September 30, 2012, the Tax Collector was charged \$751,158 for the insurance programs.

Note 6. Contingencies

The Tax Collector is involved from time to time in certain routine litigation, the substance of which as other liabilities or recoveries, would not materially affect the financial position of the Tax Collector.

Note 7. Other Post Employment Benefits

Plan Description

In accordance with Section 112.0801, Florida Statutes, because the Tax Collector provides medical plans to employees of the Tax Collector and their eligible dependents, the Tax Collector is also required to provide retirees the opportunity to participate in the group employee health plan. Although not required by Florida Law, the County has opted to pay a portion of the cost of such participation for retired Tax Collector employees.

Retired employees (retired after 1/1/2004) of the County and all constitutional officers who retire after 30 years of service or after the age of 55 with six years of credited service with the County and who were participants in the existing medical plan at the time of retirement are entitled to participation in the Plan. Currently, for employees who have completed 20 years of service with the County who are collecting FRS monthly benefit plans, the health benefit under the Plan provides for the County to contribute a per month supplement. The monthly supplement is \$10.00 per year of service up to \$300.00 per month. For County employees whose date of retirement was prior to 10/1/2008 the monthly supplement is \$5.00 per year of service up to \$150.00 per month. The Tax Collector has contributed \$10,891 during the year, including implicit rate subsidy.

Membership

As of September 30, 2012, membership consisted of:

Active Employees 53 Inactive Participants 1

Funding Policy

Funding for this plan is on a pay-as-you-go basis. The Program is currently unfunded. There is no separate trust through which benefits for retirees are funded. No assets are currently accumulated or earmarked for this purpose. All approved benefits are paid from the County's general assets when due. The Tax Collector has one (1) employee receiving these benefits at year-end September 30, 2012.

Annual OPEB Costs and Net OBEB Obligation

Charlotte County had an actuarial valuation performed for the plan as of October 1, 2010 to include the funded status of the plan as of September 30, 2012, as well as the employer's annual required contribution (ARC) for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2012. The Tax Collector's annual OPEB cost for the fiscal year was \$31,194. The Tax Collector's annual OPEB cost, the percentage of annual OPEB cost contributed to the plan, and the net OPEB obligation for 2012 is as follows:

Note 7. Other Post Employment Benefits, Continued

Annual OPEB Costs and Net OBEB Obligation, Continued

Fiscal Year Ended	ar Annual OPEB Employer Cost Contributions				% of Annual OPEB Cost Contributed	Net OPEB Obligation		
September 30, 2012 September 30, 2011	\$	31,194 2 9,411	\$	10,891 11,412	34.91% 38.80%	\$	131,889 111,586	
September 30, 2010		39,304		8,503	21.63%		93,587	

The funded status of the plan as of September 30, 2012 was as follows:

Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) Actuarial Value of Plan Assets	\$ 293,161
Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL)	293,161
Covered Payroll	\$ 2,132,009
Ratio of UAAL to Covered Payroll	13.75%

Valuation Methods and Assumptions

Normal cost and the allocation of benefit values between service rendered before and after the valuation date was determined using and Individual Entry-Age Actuarial Cost method. The rate of return on investment under the pay-as-you-go approach is 4.5%, compounded annually. Salaries are assumed to increase between 4.0% and 9.47% depending on the member's age and service. Salary increase assumptions are the salary increase assumptions used in the most recent Actuarial Valuation of the Florida Retirement System (FRS).

SUPPLEMENTAL

INFORMATION

CHARLOTTE COUNTY, FLORIDA

TAX COLLECTOR

GENERAL FUND

SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL

_	Original Budget		Final Budget		Actual		Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)	
Revenues:				=				
9	\$	7,586,740	\$	7,586,740	\$	7,245,691	\$	(341,049)
Miscellaneous		50,000		50,000		112,127		62,127
Total revenues		7,636,740		7,636,740	_	7,357,818		(278,922)
Expenditures:								
Current								
General government								
Non-court related								
Personal services		3,869,671		3,895,801		3,798,985		96,816
Operating expenditures		988,794		988,794		906,105		82,689
Capital expenditures		37,185		37,185		69,822		(32,637)
Total general government		4,895,650		4,921,780		4,774,912		146,868
Total expenditures		4,895,650		4,921,780		4,774,912		146,868
Excess of revenues over/(under) expend	lit	2,741,090		2,714,960		2,582,906		(132,054)
Other financing sources (uses):								
Transfers out		(2,741,090)		(2,714,960)		(2,582,906)		132,054
Total other financing sources (uses)		(2,741,090)		(2,714,960)		(2,582,906)		132,054
Excess of revenues and other sources over/(under) expenditures and other uses	3							
Fund balance, October 1, 2011 Fund balance, September 30, 2012	\$	-	\$	<u>-</u>	\$	-	\$	

CHARLOTTE COUNTY, FLORIDA TAX COLLECTOR COMBINING STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET ASSETS AGENCY FUNDS SEPTEMBER 30, 2012

Assets	Tax Collector Fund			Redemption Fund	License and Tag Fund	
Cash and cash equivalents Due from other governments Due from individuals	\$	4,663,181 - 14,497	\$	214,384	\$	259,675 4,090 11,851
Total assets	\$	4,677,678	\$	214,384	\$	275,616
Liabilities						
Due to other constitutional officers:						
Board of County Commissioners	\$	254,469	\$	-	\$	31,058
Clerk of the Circuit Court		-		-		-
Property Appraiser		25				6
Total due to other constitutional officers		254,494		-		31,064
Due to other governments		102,621		-		243,966
Due to individuals		18,458		214,384		410
Deposits		4,302,105		_		176
Total liabilities	\$	4,677,678	\$	214,384	\$	275,616

Tourist Development Tax Fund		 Charity Fund	Total
\$	97,653	\$ 1,273	\$ 5,236,166
	-	-	4,090
		 	26,348
\$	97,653	\$ 1,273	\$ 5,266,604
\$	96,150 1,487	\$ - -	\$ 381,677 1,487 31
	97,637	 	383,195
	-	-	346,587
	16	1,273	234,541
	-	-	4,302,281
\$	97,653	\$ 1,273	\$ 5,266,604

CHARLOTTE COUNTY, FLORIDA TAX COLLECTOR

COMBINING STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ASSETS AND LIABILITIES -ALL AGENCY FUNDS

	 Balance October 1, 2011		Additions De		Deletions	Balance September 30, 2012		
TAX COLLECTOR FUND								
ASSETS Cash Due from other govern-	\$ 4,857,595	\$	294,744,277	\$	294,938,691	\$	4,663,181	
mental agencies	-		7,339,219		7,339,219		_	
Due from individuals	5,654		433,918		425,075		14,497	
	\$ 4,863,249	\$	302,517,414	\$	302,702,985	\$	4,677,678	
LIABILITIES								
Due to other funds Due to other constitu-	\$ -	\$	7,232,314	\$	7,232,314	\$		
tional officers Due to other govern-	187,904		193,013		126,423		254,494	
mental agencies	85,212		85,199		67,790		102,621	
Due to individuals	10,423		2,617,968		2,609,933		18,458	
Deposits	 4,579,710		361,801,909		362,079,514		4,302,105	
	\$ 4,863,249	\$	371,930,403	\$	372,115,974	\$	4,677,678	
TAX REDEMPTION FUND								
ASSETS								
Cash	\$ 82,245	\$	20,171,273	\$	20,039,134	\$	214,384	
Due from other govern-								
mental agencies	-		29		29		-	
Due from individuals	 -	_	160	_	160			
	\$ 82,245	\$	20,171,462	\$	20,039,323	\$	214,384	
LIABILITIES								
Due to other funds	\$ -	\$	644	\$	644	\$	-	
Due to individuals	82,245		20,542,361		20,410,222		214,384	
	\$ 82,245	\$	20,543,005	\$	20,410,866	\$	214,384	

CHARLOTTE COUNTY, FLORIDA TAX COLLECTOR

COMBINING STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ASSETS AND LIABILITIES -

ALL AGENCY FUNDS

LICENSE AND TAG FUND	Balance October 1, 2011		October 1,				Balance September 30, 2012		
ASSETS Cash Due from other funds	\$	256,001	\$	23,466,589 1,492,995	\$	23,462,915 1,492,995	\$	259,675	
Due from other govern- mental agencies		5,842		129,949		131,701		4,090	
Due from individuals		13,377		1,392,159		1,393,685		11,851	
27 WW 21 WIII 21 MINIT I MARKET	\$	275,220	\$	26,481,692	\$	26,481,296	\$	275,616	
			_						
LIABILITIES									
Due to other funds	\$	-	\$	1,435,531	\$	1,435,531	\$		
Due to other constitu-									
tional officers		35,455		487,223		491,614		31,064	
Due to other govern- mental agencies		238,461		23,403,395		23,397,890		243,966	
Due to individuals		328		38,469		38,387		410	
Deposits		976		1,771,353		1,772,153		176	
A				, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		, , , , , ,			
	\$	275,220	\$	27,135,971	\$	27,135,575	\$	275,616	
TOURIST DEVELOPMENT TA	AX FUI	ND							
ASSETS									
Cash	\$	82,885	\$	2,537,050	\$	2,522,282	\$	97,653	
Due from other funds	Ψ	-	Ψ	37,136	Ψ	37,136	Ψ	-	
Due from other govern-				,		,			
mental agencies		19				19		-	
Due from individuals				1,665		1,665			
	\$	82,904	\$	2,575,851	\$	2,561,102	\$	97,653	
LIABILITIES									
Due to other constitu-	•	02.002	•	2 720 074	•	2.704.120	•	07.437	
tional officers Due to other funds	\$	82,892	\$	2,720,874 37,230	\$	2,706,129 37,230	\$	97,637	
Due to other runds Due to individuals		12		11,516		11,512		16	
- we to miditademia	\$	82,904	\$	2,769,620	\$	2,754,871	\$	97,653	
		<u> </u>							

CHARLOTTE COUNTY, FLORIDA

TAX COLLECTOR

COMBINING STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ASSETS AND LIABILITIES - ALL AGENCY FUNDS

	Balance October 1, 2011		October 1,			Deletions	Balance September 30, 2012		
CHARITIES FUND									
ASSETS Cash	\$	3,135 3,135	\$ \$	17,010 17,010	\$ \$	18,872 18,872	\$	1,273 1,273	
LIABILITIES Due to individuals	\$ \$	3,135 3,135	\$	17,744 17,744	\$	19,606 19,606	\$ \$	1,273	
TOTALS - ALL AGENCY FUN	DS								
ASSETS Cash Due from other funds Due from other governmental agencies	\$	5,281,861	\$	340,936,199 1,530,131 7,469,197	\$	340,981,894 1,530,131 7,470,968	\$	5,236,166	
Due from individuals	\$	19,031 5,306,753	\$	1,827,902 351,763,429	\$	1,820,585 351,803,578	\$	26,348 5,266,604	
LIABILITIES Due to other funds Due to other consti-	\$	-	\$	8,705,719	\$	8,705,719	\$		
tutional officers Due to other govern-		306,251		3,401,110		3,324,166		383,195	
mental agencies		323,673		23,488,594		23,465,680		346,587	
Due to individuals		96,143		23,228,058		23,089,660		234,541	
Deposits	•	4,580,686	\$	363,573,262	•	363,851,667	•	4,302,281	
	\$	5,306,753	<u> </u>	422,396,743	\$	422,436,892	\$	5,266,604	

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Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting
And on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an
Audit of Special-Purpose Financial Statements Performed
In Accordance with Government Auditing Standards

Honorable Vickie Potts Charlotte County Tax Collector Port Charlotte, Florida

We have audited the special-purpose financial statements of the Charlotte County, Florida, Tax Collector as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2012, and have issued our report thereon dated February 18, 2013 for the purpose of compliance with Section 218.39(2), Florida Statutes, and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General-Local Governmental Entity Audits. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Charlotte County, Florida, Tax Collector's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the special-purpose financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Charlotte County, Florida, Tax Collector's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Charlotte County, Florida, Tax Collector's internal control over financial reporting.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's special-purpose financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis.

Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be deficiencies, significant deficiencies, or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider material weaknesses, as defined above.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Charlotte County, Florida, Tax Collector's special-purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Charlotte County, Florida, Tax Collector, the Charlotte County, Florida, Board of County Commissioners, the Auditor General of the State of Florida, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than those specified parties. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Ashley, Brown +Co.

February 18, 2013

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Management Letter

Honorable Vickie Potts Charlotte County Tax Collector Port Charlotte, Florida

We have audited the special-purpose financial statements of the Charlotte County, Florida, Tax Collector, as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2012, and have issued our report thereon dated February 18, 2013.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States of America. We have also issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and Compliance and Other Matters. Disclosures in that report, which is dated February 18, 2013, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

Additionally, our audit was conducted in accordance with Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General, which governs the conduct of local governmental entity audits performed in the State of Florida. This letter includes the following information, which is not included in the aforementioned auditor's reports or schedule:

- > Section 10.554(1)(i)1., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we determine whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report. There were no recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report.
- Section 10.554(1)(i)2., Rules of the Auditor General, requires our audit to include a review of the provisions of Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, regarding the investment of public funds. In connection with our audit, we determined that the Charlotte County, Florida, Tax Collector complied with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes.

- > Section 10.554(1)(i)3., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we address in the management letter any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such recommendations.
- Section 10.554(1)(i)4., Rules of the Auditor General, require that we address violations of provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, that have occurred, or are likely to have occurred, that have an effect on the financial statements that is less than material but more than inconsequential. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such findings.
- ➤ Section 10.554(1)(i)5., Rules of the Auditor General, provides that the auditor may, based on professional judgment, report the following matters that have an inconsequential effect on financial statements, considering both quantitative and qualitative factors: (1) violations of provisions of contracts or grant agreements, fraud, illegal acts, or abuse, and (2) deficiencies in internal control that are not significant deficiencies. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such findings.
- > Section 10.554(1)(i)6., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that the name or official title and legal authority for the primary government and each component unit of the reporting entity be disclosed in this management letter, unless disclosed in the notes to the financial statements. This information is disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

Pursuant to Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, this management letter is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited. Auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America requires us to indicate that this letter is intended solely for the information of the Charlotte County, Florida, Tax Collector, management, the Charlotte County, Florida, Board of County Commissioners, and the State of Florida Office of the Auditor General, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Ashley, Brown + Co.

February 18, 2013

Charlotte County Tax Collector



www.cctaxcol.com



February 27, 2013

Ashley & Brown CPA's Certified Public Accountants 366 East Olympia Avenue Punta Gorda, Florida 33950

Dear Mr. Ashley and Mr. Brown:

Pursuant to Chapter 10.550 "Rules of the Auditor General – Local Government Entity Audits" and Section 11.45 (3) (a) 4, Florida Statutes, we are in receipt of and are responding to your management letter, for fiscal year ended September 30, 2012.

I am very pleased with the outcome of the audit. Please extend our thanks to your staff for their outstanding work.

Sincerely,

Vickie L. Potts.

Vickie Pott

Charlotte County Tax Collector

VLP/df

CHARLOTTE COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR

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